



Freestate ChalleNGe Academy gives at-risk youth a second chance

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

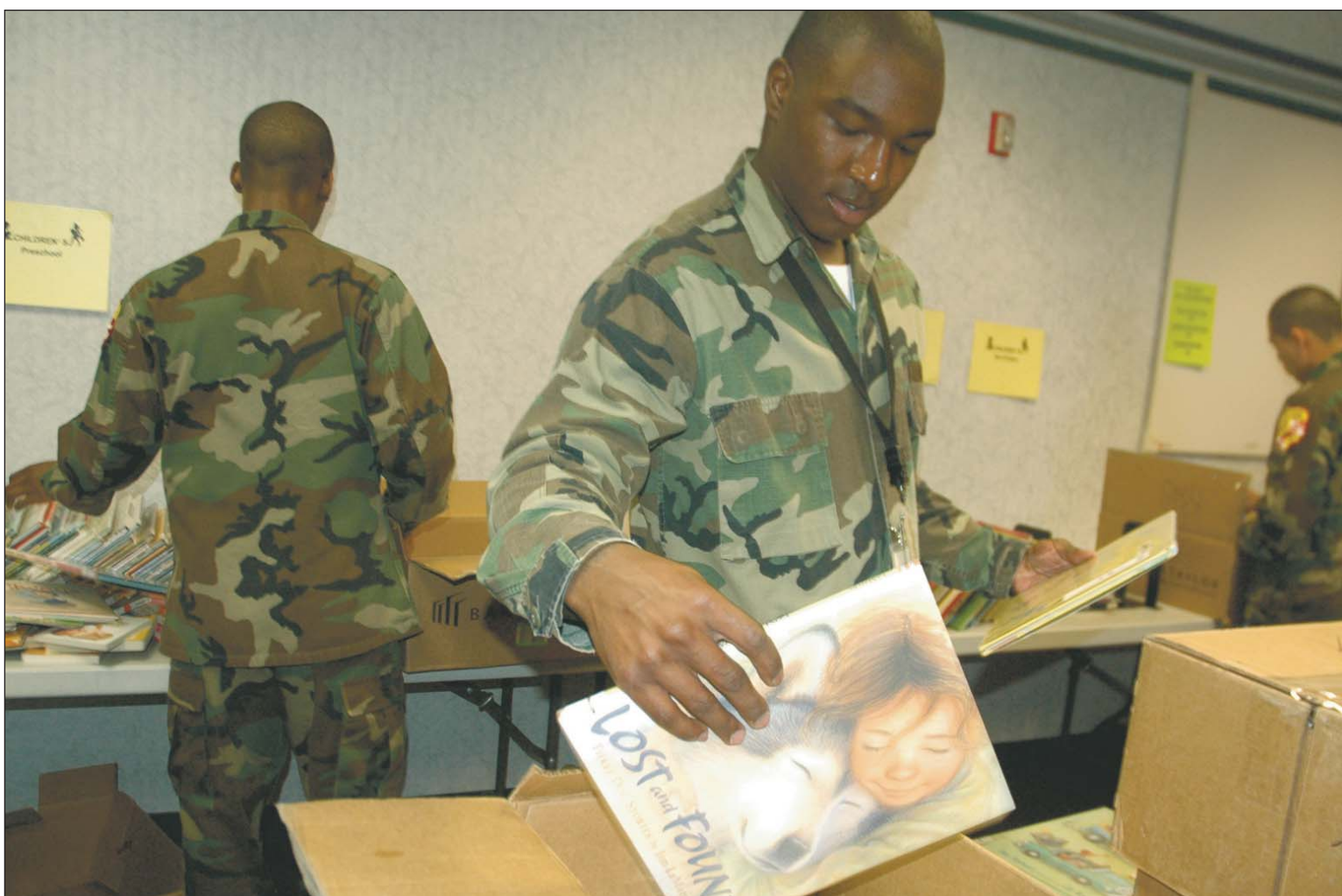
Freestate ChalleNGe Academy gives students withdrawn from high school, ages 16-18, a unique opportunity; a second chance at an education. For 22 weeks, the cadets voluntarily live in the academy's residential program, a structured, disciplined, quasi-military environment. The 17-month program is operated by the Maryland National Guard.

Freestate ChalleNGe Academy Director Charles Rose said the program receives about 450 applications per session and around 200 teens are selected to participate in the two week Pre-Challenge, or acclimation period, where the teens decide if they want to stay and participate in the program. Of those teens, about 140 cadets are accepted into the program.

"We choose teens that have a willingness to want to make a change in their lives," said Bill Anderson, who is in charge of recruitment.

During the residential phase,

See FREESTATE, page 10



Cadets volunteer at the Edgewood branch of the Harford County Public Library March 25. All cadets who graduate from the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy must complete a minimum of 40 hours worth of public service.

Community speaks out against sexual assault

By **RACHEL PONDER**
APG News

Team APG hosted a breakfast and open discussion forum called "It Time...To Talk About It!" a Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month event, April 3.

The event featured an expert panel of counselors and clinical social workers who opened the discussion and question-and-answer session by talking about their experiences working with victims of sexual assault. They discussed the factors that help a victim become a survivor, dealing with current situations, and the journey still ahead for those needing to resolve a problem, as well as ways to protect Family members and friends, talking to children about sex and opening the lines of communication so children feel comfortable discussing these topics with parents.

Panel members included Installation Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jerry Owens; Dr. James Cartwright, clinical social worker from the

To report a sexual assault, call the Installation 24/7 hotline at 410-322-7154 or the DoD Safe Helpline at 1-877-995-5247.

See SAAM, page 10

Gold Star Families honored

By **LUKE ELLIOTT**
IMCOM

America paid respect April 5 to the spouses and families of fallen members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

A resolution to designate Gold Star Wives Day was approved March 20 by the U.S. Senate in recognition of the sacrifices made by these spouses and family members.

The Senate resolution states the military service members and veterans "bear the burden of protecting the freedom of the people of the United

States and ... the sacrifices of the families of the fallen members of the United States should never be forgotten."

Gold Star Wives Day was first celebrated Dec. 18, 2010, through a Senate resolution with support from the Gold Star Wives of America, Inc., a nonprofit organization of about 10,000 members that provides services and support to the spouses of fallen service members.

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U.S. Army Photo

The gold star lapel pin (left) is issued to immediate family members of service members killed in combat. The next-of-kin pin (right) signifies a service-related death or suicide during active duty other than combat.

Holocaust Days of Remembrance program slated for April 16

By **T'JAE GIBSON**
ARL Public Affairs Office

The Army Research Laboratory will host "Holocaust Days of Remembrance," 10 a.m. April 16 at the Post Theater, Bldg. 3245.

This year's theme, "Never Again: Heeding the warning signs" is a call to action to motivate people to "respond to indicators of genocide today," event organizers said.

"Looking back at the events of 1938, the signs of impending war and the Holocaust—territorial expansion, disregard for international law, persecution of people based on their identity—are undoubtedly clearer today than they were then," states a post on the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum website. "Nonetheless, opportunities for international intervention, such as at the Evian Conference, existed and could have saved many lives," it continues. "Why did so many countries and individuals fail to respond to the warning signs? And what can we learn from the few who chose to act, despite widespread indifference?"

Baltimorean Sam Poncza, a Polish immigrant whose early life was plagued by the



US Holocaust Memorial Museum photo

This child was one of millions whose lives were disrupted as a result of the Holocaust and Nazi persecution.

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Army releases second quarter accident data; downward trend continues

By **JULIE SHELLEY**
U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center

Accident statistics from the second quarter show the Army continues to improve its safety performance well into fiscal 2013, according to data released by the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center.

Overall, accidental fatalities declined 13 percent from figures for the same time frame in fiscal 2012. Based on recent updates to existing accident reports, fiscal 2012 is currently tied with fiscal 2000 as the second-safest year on record, not third as previously reported.

"The fact that accidental

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WEATHER

Thurs.



72° | 56°

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STREET TALK

What would you do on an ideal day off?

I would spend at least two hours at a spa, do some gardening, or anything outdoors, and volunteer in the community.



Andrea Jenkins
JPEO-CBD

I am in school studying to be a neuro-physiologist. I would read nerdy books about the brain, biology and physiology, I find that relaxing.



Becca Sandlain
Military Family member

I rarely get a day off. I am so busy with work and Family, I would just relax all day and not have an agenda.



Mary Lopus
Military Family member

My ideal day off would include great weather. I would want to spend the whole day outdoors.



Spc. Kevin Laitipaya
MRICD

OPINION

APG observes Sexual Assault Awareness Month



One of the most serious and fundamental violations of these values is sexual harassment and assault. As a result, the Army is committed to eradicating sexual harassment and assault in our ranks by creating a climate that respects the dignity of each member of our Army.

The foundation of our success as an Army is based on our shared commitment to the Army's Values, the tenets of the Profession of Arms, the Warrior Ethos and the Army Civilian Corps Creed. More than any single weapon, equipment item or technologically-advanced system, it is our daily adherence to these principles that makes the Army both effective on the battlefield and consistently rated as among the most admired institutions in our nation.

Fostering a culture in which our values can flourish and where mutual respect, trust and confidence exists among our Soldiers, civilians and families is the responsibility of every Army leader. One of the most serious and fundamental violations of these values is sexual harassment and assault. As a result, the Army is committed to eradicating sexual harassment and assault in our ranks by creating a climate that respects the dignity of each member of our Army Family and holds offenders appropriately accountable for such intolerable behavior.

Although this commitment lasts 24/7, 365 days a year, during April the Army makes a special effort to recognize and support Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) - an annual national campaign to raise awareness and educate communities on the prevention of sexual violence. This year's Army theme for SAAM is, "We own it ... we'll solve it ... together." Throughout April, Army leaders will emphasize the range of programs we now have in place to train Soldiers and civilians on sexual assault prevention, to reduce the stigma of reporting and to support and care for victims of sexual harassment and assault.

Implementing the Army's comprehensive Sexual Harassment/Assault Prevention Program (SHARP) is among a commander's most important responsibilities. In fact, leaders at all levels must be committed to instilling a culture where incidents of sexual harassment and assault are viewed as unacceptable and fully inconsistent with what it means to serve in the Profession of Arms. All members of the

Army team must have at their core an ingrained, values-based 'gut reaction' to stop demeaning 'out of bounds' behavior and acts of violence.

A key component of SHARP is the Army's I. AM. STRONG sexual assault prevention campaign which focuses on empowering leaders, peers and bystanders to intervene when they witness inappropriate behavior. The three watchwords of the I. AM. STRONG campaign are 'intervene, act and motivate.' Through required SHARP training and by encouraging our Army team members to take action to stop sexual harassment and assault, we will build an institution that views one incident as too many and where no one will tolerate preying upon a fellow Soldier or Army Civilian.

Here at Aberdeen Proving Ground we have an active and engaged SHARP program. There are now 36 Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARC) and Victims Advocates (VA) across our APG commands. Our goal is to provide victim advocacy and support services 24/7 and within 60-minutes of the reporting of an incident. During April, we have a number of events scheduled to highlight Sexual Assault Awareness Month and in fact we kicked it off with a great 5K run/walk on April 2 that drew more than 300 APG Team member participants.

We were also very pleased to welcome the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, the Honorable Jessica Wright and Maj. Gen. Gary Patton, Director of DoD's Sexual Assault Prevention Office at our kick-off cere-

mony on April 2. Further, we will offer a screening of 'The Invisible War,' a documentary film about sexual assault in the military, 1 p.m., April 16 at Bldg. E2800 in APG South (Edgewood). In addition, APG will host three showings of the improvisational theater presentation 'The Sex Signals' at the APG Post Theater, 9 and 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., April 18. Seating for these shows is limited and tickets are available at the MWR Ticket Booth or through unit SHARP representatives.

There will also be a Self Defense Class and Empowerment Fair at the Main Post Chapel, April 23 from noon to 1:30 p.m. Finally, APG team members may participate in 'Honor Denim Day,' April 24, which encourages individuals to wear denim to work to show their support for the victims of sexual assault.

This effort goes to the core of who we are and what we believe as members of the Army family. We look out for each other, we care for each other, and we treat each other with the greatest respect. I encourage everyone to get involved this month and make a commitment to eliminating sexual harassment and assault at APG and across our Army.

Thanks for all you do. Army Strong.

Maj. Gen. Robert S. Ferrell

Commander, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command & Aberdeen Proving Ground

The APG 24/7 Sexual Assault Hotline is 410-322-7154

The DoD SAFE Helpline is 877-995-5247

APG Military and civilian community club

“Wasn't it called Military Civilian Spouse Club or APG Community Women's Club?” Yes it was, but we now have a new name, leadership, and purpose and would love for you to come join the “new” Military and Civilian Community Club.

What you've never heard about us

The MCCC's mission is two-fold -- to raise funds in support of scholarship and charitable requests from APG and local community organizations, all while encouraging members to develop relationships within our APG Community.

In the past, we have contributed to crisis pregnancy centers, the VA medical center, and local schools.

As a member, you also have opportunities to participate in our “Clubs within the MCCC Club” - Book Club, Lunch Bunch, Adventure Club, and

Wine and Gourmet Club, etc. These activities provide our members many opportunities to gather and socialize and/or get to know one another. MCCC's monthly general membership programs also enable members to enjoy a variety of other experiences, such as comedy night, lessons with a Master Gardener, Oktoberfest, Breast Cancer Awareness luncheon co-sponsored with Women in Defense -- and yes, an occasional traditional luncheon.

Mark your calendars for April 11. The MCCC membership drive will be held 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Top of the Bay.

For more information contact Jenn Smith at membership.apgmccc@gmail.com.

Jenn Smith
MCCC Membership Chair

Did you know?

Members enjoy experiences, such as comedy night, lessons with a Master Gardener, Oktoberfest, Breast Cancer Awareness luncheon co-sponsored with Women in Defense.

APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST

Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
72° 26°	70° 50°	62° 44°	60° 47°	66° 54°	69° 54°	70° 49°

APG NEWS

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: IMAP-PA, Building 305, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1153. Printed circulation is 8,900. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal oppor-

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CAPE educates APG workforce on the Army Profession

Story and photo by
SANDY GIBSON
ATEC

Members of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command attended an Army Profession seminar conducted by the Center for the Army Profession and Ethic, or CAPE, held at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center March 26.

In January, the Army launched an education and training program called “America’s Army – Our Profession” and has planned 40 seminars at various installations across the Army. The Army Profession seminars were developed to provide an overview of the Army Profession doctrine, demonstrate educational and training resources, and facilitate discussions about the new doctrine and the essence of being an Army professional.

The APG Army Profession seminar was presented by Col. Jeffrey Peterson, CAPE director, and Sgt. Maj. David Stewart, CAPE senior enlisted advisor. The seminar was divided into two sessions: a morning session for supervisors and leaders and an afternoon session for the remainder of the workforce.

Peterson started off by emphasizing the seminars were designed as interactive exercises based on group discussions and participation.

“This is not a typical PowerPoint presentation,” said Peterson. “We really like to have people participate, to give their responses, and to give their thoughts because the best way to make this stuff happen is to have a good dialogue.”

To facilitate the discussions, attendees were grouped at tables and asked a series of questions related to the Army Profession and what it meant to be a professional; discipline and why it’s difficult to achieve and maintain; and the five essential characteristics of the Army Profession: trust, military expertise, honorable service, esprit de corps and stewardship of the profession.



Sgt. Maj. David Stewart, senior enlisted advisor, Center for the Army Profession and Ethic, discusses the importance of the Profession of Arms Campaign with attendees during the Army Profession seminar held at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Recreation Center March 26.

In addition to the group discussions, Stewart discussed why the Army Profession campaign was so important and why it is important to talk about professionalism.

“The Army Profession includes everybody, whether you’re an Army civilian or a Soldier,” said Stewart.

After more than a decade of war, the Army realized it needed to reassess the state of the Army Profession as well as define what makes the Army a profession. During this study, one finding indicated a lack of a common understanding of what defined a profession and being a professional within that profession.

“There were a lot of people who had ideas about it,” said Peterson. “You could ask a hundred people and get a

hundred different answers on what that meant.”

The two-hour long seminar furthered attendees’ knowledge of CAPE, many of whom were unaware the organization existed. It also promoted the abundance of training materials, videos and handouts found on the CAPE website available for download (<http://cape.army.mil>). Attendees left with a greater understanding of the Army Profession as a whole, the importance of reaffirming the Army’s values, and a renewed interest in working toward becoming an Army professional.

“Being a professional means that I have an obligation to be trained and prepared in my line of work so I am able to contribute fully to the successful opera-

tion of the Army,” said Dal Nett, chief of the ATEC Safety Division.

Senior leaders and staff praised CAPE for its efforts in educating the workforce on the Army Profession.


“The Center for Army Profession and Ethic did a masterful job at presenting the Army as the exceptional organization that it is,” said David Jimenez, director of the U.S. Army Evaluation Center. “The Army is made up of outstanding professionals from all walks of life, with a defined mission, practiced by Soldiers and civilians in the defense of our nation.”

Peterson encouraged senior leaders to develop their own in-house seminars using CAPE’s online resources. According to ATEC leaders, ATEC will take a top-down approach in delivering the Army Profession seminar and it already has begun educating its staff directors on the Army Profession.

“As leaders we have often reached the pinnacle, but that doesn’t mean we stop developing ourselves and our younger workforce,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Allen Fritzsching, ATEC’s top senior enlisted leader. During an April 3 Army Profession briefing, Fritzsching engaged staff directors and encouraged them to mentor less experienced employees and help them understand they are “part of something bigger than themselves.”

The Army established the Army Center of Excellence for the Professional Military Ethic in 2008 to reinforce the Army Profession and its ethic. Located at West Point, N.Y., the ACPME was re-designated as the Center for the Army Profession and Ethic in August 2010. To learn more about what CAPE offers, visit the website at <http://cape.army.mil>.

How are we doing? E-mail comments and suggestions for the APG News to the editor at patricia.g.beauchamp.civ@mail.mil



Cash awards could be just a suggestion away

The ASP seeks suggestions that improve work methods, materials, processes, equipment, logistics, utilities or tools that will benefit the Army. Suggestions that save money can be eligible for a cash award up to \$25,000. The more money saved, the larger the potential award.

Visit <https://armysuggestions.army.mil> for info, or contact Marjorie Sexton, Installation ASP coordinator, at 410-278-0944 or marjorie.sexton1@us.army.mil.

Soldier Show performer to support sister on American Idol

By **TIM HIPPS**
IMCOM Public Affairs

Pfc. Felicia Holcomb took a few days leave from the U.S. Army Soldier Show to support her younger sister, Amber, one of American Idol’s top seven performers in Los Angeles.

Amber Holcomb drew a standing ovation from all four judges – Keith Urban, Mariah Carey, Nicki Minaj and Randy Jackson – for her rendition of “Lately” by Stevie Wonder during American Idol’s Top 8 Performance Show.

“By far, for me, the best vocal of the night,” Jackson said.

Amber also brought the judges to their feet with “A Moment like This” by Kelly Clarkson during the Top 10 Performance Show. After Amber sang Whitney Houston’s “I Believe in You and Me” earlier in season 12 of American Idol, nearly everyone in the house sprang to their feet.

On April 3, Amber, 19, looked into the crowd and saw Felicia, 23, standing like any proud Soldier would to support her little sister during American Idol’s Classic Rock, No Ballads-themed performance show on FOX TV.

Performers in the Soldier Show regularly rehearse until 9:30 p.m., while getting set to launch their tour.

“Because we get off so late, I have to catch when she sings on YouTube,” Felicia said. “It’s only just her singing. Then I’ll find out if whether she was safe or not on Facebook. Somebody always posts something about it on Facebook.”

Felicia said she doesn’t mind missing her sister’s live performances as long as she can see them on the Internet when she returns to the barracks.

“There was only one time when I was able to watch the show on TV. But I’ve never, not once, been able to watch the ending to see if she made it or not. I’ve always had to find out on Facebook.

“I know she’s an excellent, brilliant singer, and I know she’s going to do well,” Felicia said. “I believe she’s going to win. I know she’s going to make it, so I’m not too worried. I just like to see what she sang and try to tell her little pointers.”

The Holcombs grew up together in Houston. Amber is a 2012 graduate of Dekaney High School; Felicia graduated from Aldine Senior High and is stationed at Fort Gordon, Ga.



Courtesy photo

Pfc. Felicia Holcomb, a native of Houston, Texas, who is stationed at Fort Gordon, Ga., takes leave from the U.S. Army Soldier Show in San Antonio to support her younger sister, Amber Holcomb, who is one of seven remaining in the 2013 American Idol competition in Los Angeles, Calif.

“We sang together all the time,” Felicia said. “I’m very proud of her. That’s my world right there. We both love music, and we’re both very open-minded when it comes to music.”

Likewise, Amber is proud of Felicia for securing a spot in the U.S. Army Soldier Show.

“She sent me something on Facebook that said: ‘Look at you. You’re doing big things as well,’ said Felicia, who paid for her airfare and hotel room in Los Angeles. “Everybody in the Soldier Show is very supportive of me going to support Amber.”

Felicia also will attend the live results show April 4 from 8 until 9 p.m. ET. Six-time Grammy Award-winning artist and season four Idol winner Carrie Underwood will perform her new single, “See You Again,” and season nine Idol finalist Casey James will sing “The Good Life.”

And Amber, of course, will learn if she advances to the next round of competition.

“She’s going to win,” Felicia said.

Amber currently is a Top 6 Finalist on the twelfth season of American Idol.

The motto “Entertainment for the Soldier, by the Soldier” was established during World War I by Sgt. Israel Beilin, a Russian immigrant better known as Irving Berlin who conceived and directed the first Army Soldier Show, “Yip Yip Yaphank,” which appeared on Broadway in 1918.

The U.S. Army Soldier Show was reinvented during World War II on Broadway under the title “This is the Army,” which was written, directed and produced by Berlin. The cast and crew were members of U.S Army Special Services Company No. 1. The 1943 film version featured a military cast starring Ronald Reagan, Gene Kelly and Joe Lewis.

The modern version of the U.S. Army Soldier Show originated in 1983 as an outgrowth of several other shows with Soldier talent selected from worldwide competition.

The U.S. Army Soldier Show returns to APG for two performances in June – 7 p.m., Sunday, June 16 and 11:30 a.m., Monday, June 17 – at the Post Theater.

Check the APG News for more information or visit the Morale, Welfare and Recreation website at www.apgmwr.com.

Picerne Military Housing to be called Corvias Military Living

Corvias Group Press Release

Corvias Group, a privately-owned, vertically-integrated real estate solutions group, announced that its military housing division will now be called Corvias Military Living, advancing a corporate re-branding that began in July 2012 with the introduction of the company’s new student housing division, Corvias Campus Living.

The switch from Picerne Military Housing to Corvias Military Living will help Corvias Group reinforce its brand by unifying the names of the established, award-winning, military housing division with that of the new student housing division under the parent company name.

“Our name is changing, but our leadership, partnership and innovation will not,” said John Picerne, founder and CEO of Corvias Group. “For us, providing our service members and their families with improved housing is more than a job; it’s a vocation. Our commitment to them remains unchanged, and our customer’s best interests remain at the heart of our business decisions.”

The brand transition, including the introduction of all new signage, is expected to take approximately one year to complete.

For the past 14 years, Picerne Military Housing has been a pioneer and leader in the privatization, construction and management of U.S. military housing. The company delivers high-quality housing and real estate management services to service members at seven Army installations. Since its founding, the company has partnered with the military to build, renovate and manage more than 21,000 homes and 30 million square feet of space situated on more than 25,000 acres of land.

Corvias Military Living has reshaped the expectations of what the quality of life can and should be for service members across the nation. Residents in its military housing recently awarded the company the number one resident satisfaction ranking for portfolios with at least 10,000 homes based on the 2012 SatisFacts Annual Resident Survey. The company has earned the number one resident satisfaction distinction for five consecutive years and achieved a superior rating for six consecutive years.

In February, Corvias Military Living broke ground on Reece Crossings, the first on-post, apartment community ever built for junior enlisted single service members. The \$72 million, 432-unit project is designed specifically to encourage more service members of this demographic to live on-post at Fort Meade, Md. Corvias also recently completed its first master-planned community on Fort Riley, Kan, erecting in less than six years a 328-acre sub-division that includes 1,389 three- and four-bedroom homes and multiple community amenities for privates to lieutenant colonels and their families, as well as an elementary school that is home to 675 kindergarten through fifth grade students.

In addition, Corvias’ charitable foundation, The Our Family for Families First Foundation, was recognized last year at the White House by First Lady Michelle Obama as a winner of the first Joining Forces Community Challenge. John Picerne personally established the foundation in 2006 to support military families in the pursuit of higher education, instituting a tradition of community service, and encouraging professional career paths. Since its founding, The Our Family for Families First Foundation has awarded more than \$3.5 million in scholarship funds.

About Corvias Group

Corvias is a privately-owned, vertically-integrated real estate solutions group dedicated to building strong communities through partnerships that deliver the highest quality development, construction and management solutions to a range of clients, including the military and higher education. Applying our success as pioneers of real estate development and management for the military, the company’s two divisions, Corvias Military Living and Corvias Campus Living, deliver customer service that exceeds client expectations and an innovative, comprehensive approach to facility financing, management and construction. We have the ability to forge partnerships that consistently put the interests of our clients first and the flexibility to pursue creative, sustainable long-term solutions to their most difficult challenges.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**THURSDAY
APRIL 11
SPRING-TASTIC BAZAAR!**

Shop now for Mother’s Day, Father’s Day and graduation gifts during the Spring-tastic Bazaar at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Over 40 vendors! Live Entertainment! Free Samples!

Door prize drawings will be held every half hour, with a KINDLE as the grand prize!

There’s something for everyone, including your pets!

Crafts for the whole family, baked goods, specialty items, jewelry, summer sports rentals and much, much more! For more information, call 410-278-9451.

**FLYING SOLO FOR SINGLES
INFORMATIONAL SESSION**

The CECOM Wellness Program invites all singles to attend the Flying Solo for Singles Informational Session. As a single person, a financial road map and a team of trusted advisors will make the difference to your financial well-being. In this session, Michelle Rackey, ChFEBC, Executive Director GEBA, will discuss the unique financial needs of singles. Location: Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000, from noon to 1 p.m.

For more information call 443-861-7910.

**APG MILITARY, CIVILIAN,
COMMUNITY CLUB ‘SUPER
SIGN’**

Membership is open to APG active duty military, civilians, contractors, retirees, volunteers, community members and their Family members. Join the group 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Top of the Bay. For more information, visit www.apgmccc.org.

**APRIL 12 DEADLINE
MILITARY AND CIVILIAN
COMMUNITY CLUB (MCCC)
ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP**

The MCCC scholarship application window is now open. Go to www.apgmccc.org and click on the scholarship tab to view eligibility, necessary documents and other application requirements. Deadline is April 12.

For more information, call 410-306-6898.

**TUESDAY
APRIL 16
C4ISR RESILIENCY/
RELAXATION FAIR**

With the stresses of the tax season, the uncertainty of sequestration, as well as gas and food prices fluctuating, the CECOM Wellness Program and the C4ISR Wellness Committee will hold the first C4ISR Resiliency/Relaxation Fair. Massage and chiropractic services; stress, financial, and anger management information; as well as acupuncture, reflexology, hypnosis, physical therapy, and fitness information will be offered.

Representatives from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic’s Behavioral Health, The APG Wellness Center, Army Substance Abuse Program, and APG Family and Morale Welfare & Recreation, along with the APG Federal Credit Union, Freedom Federal Credit Union, Harford County-Dept of Community Affairs, and other local health professional will be in attendance to answer questions and about their services. Location: MTF, Bldg. 6008-Multipurpose Room 10B, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information call 443-861-7910.

**HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE
CEREMONY**

The Team APG Holocaust Committee will present the annual Days of Remembrance observance 10 a.m. at the Main Post Theater.

The guest speaker, Holocaust Survivor Sam Ponzak, will speak on the theme: “Never Again; Heeding the Warning Signs.”

The National Days of Remembrance are April 7-14.

For more information, contact Sheryl Coleman, ARL, 410-278-5961; Tracy Marshall, CECOM EOA, 443-861-4366; or Linda Patrick, USAPHC, 410-436-1023.

**WEDNESDAY
APRIL 17
LIVING HEALTHY, LIVING WELL**

Author Phyllis Bullins will present maintenance tips for folks engaged in a weight loss plan or those who are considering beginning one. This is an opportunity to speak to the woman who wrote the book on achieving a healthy weight and improving the quality of your life. The event will be held in room A 101, ATEC HQ, Bldg. 2202, from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

For more information call 443-861-9260.

SPRING TECHNOLOGY EXPO

ECBC/CIO will host the 2013 Spring Technology Expo 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326, Erie Street. About 500 to 600 people regularly attend the biannual event that features the latest innovations in state-of-the-art technologies from vendors such as Allied Electronics; Dell Inc.; Lexmark; Motorola Solutions; Tektronix; Blind Industries & Services of Maryland; Xerox; and much more.

Attendance is free and open to all active duty, DOD, and contractor personnel with access to APG.

Refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact Mary McCully, ECBC/CIO Acquisition Team at 410-436-2626, mary.p.mccully.civ@mail.mil; or Donna Flemister, Federal Direct Access, 410-531-8559, donna@fdaexpo.com.

**FRIDAY
APRIL 19
WOMEN IN DEFENSE
CONFERENCE AT BULLE ROCK**

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of Women in Defense will host the inaugural Real World (RW)3 Conference 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Bulle Rock Golf Club. The event features breakfast and lunch panel discussions and development workshops as well as a new speed-mentoring initiative called “Wheel of WID” that helps women of all career fields build mentor relationships. Lunch panelists include Jill Smith, technical director, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center and Suzanne Milchling, director of Program Integration, U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center.

Amie Hoeber, former Deputy under Secretary of the Army will present “What’s a Nice Girl Like You Doing in a Job Like This?”

To register, or for more information, contact Diane Siler at 443-243-7344, e-mail her at rsvpwid@gmail.com; or visit the WID Mid-Atlantic website at www.widmidatlantic.org/Events.html.

**TUESDAY
APRIL 23
HANDLING CONFLICT IN
THE WORKPLACE AND
PRESCRIPTION TAKE BACK**

Workplaces are naturally stressful environments and personal conflicts between co-workers can be both a cause and product of this stress. Allowing stress to intensify will only further cripple the work environment. In this session, Anne Healy, Federal Employee Program Account Executive, BlueCross BlueShield, will discuss how recognizing the problem and taking positive action can help solve the problem and make the office a place where you want to go each day.

Location: Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000, from noon to 1 pm.

The APG Prescription/Over-the-Counter Take-Back Campaign kicks off Monday, April 22 through Friday, April 26. Please bring any expired, unused, and unwanted prescription (RX) drugs and over-the-counter (OTC) medicines to the Myer Auditorium Lobby, Bldg. 6000, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY
APRIL 24
UMUC MILITARY
INFORMATION SESSION**

Learn all about University of Maryland University College (UMUC) programs at a convenient information session in Bldg. 4305, Room 10 on APG-North (Aberdeen) 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Advisors will be available to discuss transfer credit (bring transcripts) and help you put together a degree plan. You can apply, register for classes, and find out how to maximize your education benefits. The \$50 application fee will be waived if you apply at the event. (The \$100 application fee for Doctor of Management cannot be waived)

Call 410-272-8269 for information.

**NUTRITION & OBESITY
PREVENTION: WHAT’S GOING
ON IN THE U.S.? WHAT CAN
YOU DO ABOUT IT?**

Jennifer Mayer, Community Health Advocate from Johns Hopkins Priority Partners, will be the guest speaker. She will address portion sizes, FDA recommendations (My Plate) and exercise as well as provide dramatic visual aids and cooking tips. This event will be held in room A 105, ATEC HQ, Bldg. 2202 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information call 443-861-9260

NATIONAL DENIM DAY

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The APG Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) Office has asked the military and civilian community to show support for rape victims by wearing jeans to work on April 24. National Denim Day is a rape prevention education campaign, where community members, elected officials, businesses and students make a social statement by wearing jeans as a visible means of protest against misconceptions that surround sexual assault. Denim became an international symbol against rape in 1992 after an Italian judge released a rapist from prison on the grounds that the victim’s tight jeans could not have been removed by the accused. The women in the Italian Parliament wore jeans in protest, and the California Senate and Assembly did the same. Thus, Denim Day was born. For more information about Denim Day and other Sexual Assault Awareness Month activities contact 1st Lt. Raisa Velez at 410-436-74249.

**FRIDAY-SUNDAY
MAY 3-5
HAVRE DE GRACE HOSTS
WAR OF 1812 EVENTS**

The City of Havre de Grace will commemorate the War of 1812 invasion by British forces during a series of events over three days. Highlights include:

- May 3**
- 3 p.m., Arrival of Tall Ships (Pride of Baltimore II, Sultana)
 - 5 to 10 p.m., Main Street 1812 Tribute for First Fridays
 - 7 p.m., War of 1812 Dinner, Van-Diver Inn

- May 4**
- 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Full event reenactment throughout town featuring Fort McHenry Fife & Drums; Star-Spangled Banner flag-raising; British reenactors landing at Concord Point Lighthouse grounds; skirmishes throughout town ending at Lock House Grounds.

- 1 p.m., Tall Ships open for tours
- 3 p.m., Military march through town to lighthouse
- 7 p.m., Ceremony with Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley at lighthouse grounds followed by The Columbia Orchestra performance and fireworks

- May 5**
- 7 a.m., Red Coat Run 5K race
 - 10 a.m., Kayak Poker Run, register 9 a.m.
 - 10:30 a.m., circa 1800 service at St. Johns Church
 - Noon, Tall ships open for tours.

For more information visit the Havre de Grace Tourism website at www.hdgtourism.com or call 800-851-7756.

**SUNDAY
MAY 26
MCVET 10K RACE**

The Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training will host the 18th Annual 5/10K races Memorial Day weekend, 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. starting from the War Memorial Building near City Hall in Baltimore. Award ceremony includes trophy and cash awards by age group. All registered runners receive a T-shirt; refreshments will be provided. Race entry fee is \$25; \$30 the day of the race. Register through Charm City Run event coordinator Kelly Dees at 410-308-1870 or www.charmcityrun.com or through MCVET at www.mcvet.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MCVET.Baltimore.

**ONGOING
DROP OFF UNUSED,
UNWANTED, AND EXPIRED
MEDICINE DURING TAKE-
BACK EVENTS**

Aberdeen Proving Ground Directorate of Emergency Services and Army Substance Abuse Program are cosponsoring this year’s Over-the-Counter and Prescription Drug Take-Back Week April 22 to April 26. Last fall, more than 80 pounds of unwanted drugs were collected from APG sites.

Community members can drop off unwanted, unused or expired medication at the following APG locations:

Monday, April 22 at ATEC, Bldg. 2202 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tuesday, April 23 at the Mallette Mission Training Facility, Bldg.6008 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wednesday, April 24 at the APG North recreation center, Bldg. 3326 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thursday, April 25 at the Post Theater from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friday, April 26 at the APG South Express Bldg. 4010 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Community members can also drop off medication Monday through Friday at the APG South Police Station, Bldg. E4420; APG North Police Station, Bldg. 2200 or Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, Bldg. 2501.

For more information call ASAP Prevention Coordinator Cindy Scott at 410-278-4013 or Community Policing Officer Mike Farlow at 410-278-3609.

See the April 18 edition of the APG News for the full story.

PICNIC RESERVATIONS

Reserve your picnic dates now! The three APG Picnic Areas (Shore Park, Woodpecker Point in Aberdeen, and Skippers Point in Edgewood) may be reserved for outings by all ID cardholders. Prime dates are going fast, so make your reservations now. For more information call 278-5789/4124.



**MORE
ONLINE**

More events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil/calendar.

America pays tribute to spouses, Family members

Continued from Page 1

“Remembrance days like Gold Star Wives Day specifically honor the sacrifices of some of the individuals a Fallen Soldier has left behind,” said Donna Engeman, Survivor Outreach Services Program Manager, U.S. Army Installation Management Command. “The sacrifices of a Gold Star wife reach beyond losing the person she considers a life partner - it is a loss of goals and expectations, it impacts her identity within the Army culture and completely changes the path of her future.

“The importance of Gold Star Wives Day is that it brings acknowledgement to and honors the many sacrifices of these incredibly courageous and resilient women,” she added.

The Department of Defense presents one of two lapel pins to Gold Star Family members. The pins are worn by the survivors to recognize their sacrifices and as a way for others to pay tribute to them.

The first pin is the Gold Star Lapel Pin, which was established by Congress in 1947 and is presented spouses and family members of service members killed in combat.

The second pin is the Next of Kin Lapel Pin, which is presented to immediate family members of service members who die while serving outside of combat operations. This pin features a gold star on a gold background.

Annette Sanders-Nash, APG Survivor Outreach Ser-

vices support coordinator, said that the APG and the Fort George G. Meade SOS offices partnered to host the first area Gold Star Wives tea at Fort Meade April 6.

In addition, Sanders said, the APG SOS program invites all Survivor Family members to the Armed Services Survivor’s Breakfast which will be held at the Main Post Chapel May 15. More information will be forthcoming in the *APG News* and through APG social media outlets.

Gold Star spouses, mothers and all survivors are encouraged to contact the APG SOS program for more information or assistance at 410-278-2861 or e-mail casandra.a.sanders-nash.civ@mail.mil.

Research leads to optical scanning discovery

U.S. Army Research Laboratory Public Affairs

The Army’s initial concept of exploring DNA as a tagging and tracking method has led to the discovery of an optical scanning technology that can identify counterfeit electronic components before they are integrated into Army materiel.

Researchers from the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command said the technology provides the capability to identify and track materiel in the absence of external tags or barcodes.

This timely discovery will help address a significant challenge within the Army and DoD: the presence of counterfeit electronic components in military equipment.

A 2011-2012 investigation by the Senate Armed Services Committee found overwhelming evidence that international counterfeiters are taking old, sub-standard electronic components and altering them to appear as new, brand-name parts that are then integrated into DoD munitions, aircrafts, sensors, and other electronic devices.

SASC chairman, Sen. Carl Levin, said the “flood of counterfeit parts, overwhelmingly from China, threatens national security, the safety of our troops, and American jobs.”

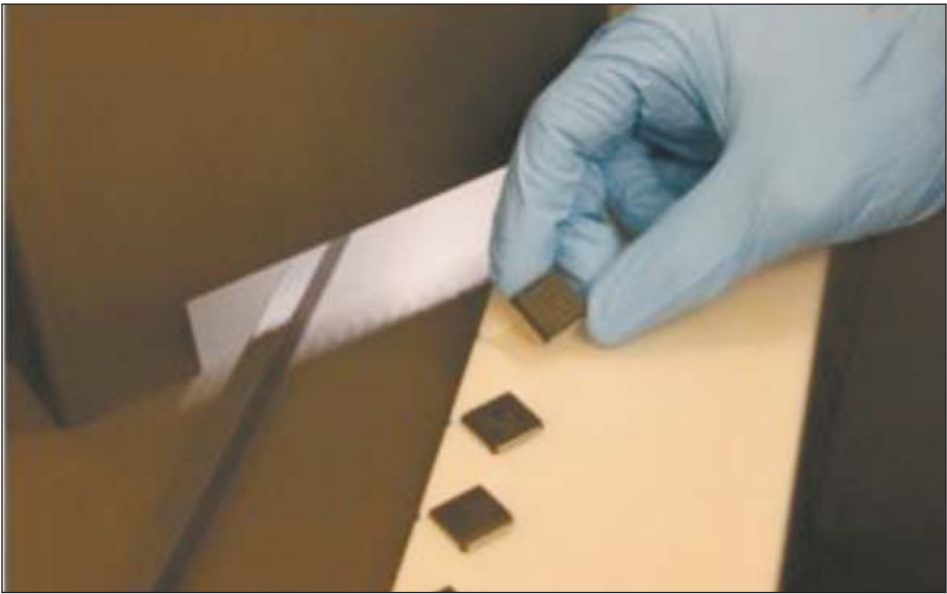
Although the SASC uncovered the sources of many of these counterfeit parts, an ongoing challenge is to consistently and reliably identify these forgeries and prevent their integration into DoD and Army materiel.

The SASC released a report in May 2012 emphasizing this challenge by documenting “failures by defense contractors and DoD to report counterfeit parts and gaps in DoD’s knowledge of the scope and impact of such parts on defense systems.”

This investigation led to an amendment, signed by President Obama, to stop the integration of counterfeit electronic parts into DoD systems and to address weaknesses in the supply chain.

An Army Research Laboratory-Army Research Office Small Business Innovation Research topic has led to a novel technology that will help address many of the challenges noted in the SASC report.

The SBIR topic, conceived by scientists from ARL-ARO and the Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center in 2007, called for



Courtesy Photo

The DTEK system optically analyzes the surface of an electronic component.

“The implications of an illegitimate circuit making its way into Army materiel could cause a 10-fold reduction in service life, or worse--it could cause the failure of an aircraft or targeting system while in operation, putting lives at risk.

ARO Military Deputy Lt. Col. Timothy Warner

a study of the properties of DNA to determine if this information-rich natural polymer could be used in a new barcoding system that would provide enhanced security relative to conventional tracking methods.

A California-based company, ChromoLogic, LLC, was contracted to explore this SBIR topic.

ChromoLogic developed a tag with a biomimetic barcode that can be aligned in the proper order and decoded by an optical reader, akin to how the sequence of a DNA molecule can be read.

This biomimetic tag and reader system has robust information-storage capabilities that are unambiguous and readily authenticated, with no reagent or material exchange between the tag and reader.

This technology will provide a capability that complements ongoing research led by the Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center, which focuses on embedding DNA in printed barcodes, which

can be transferred to a reference test ticket to verify authentic military materiel.

Interestingly, as is often true for high-risk, high-payoff research, this project led to an unexpected discovery that may have an even greater impact than was initially conceived.

The research team, led by principal investigator Dr. Naresh Menon and project manager Leonard Nelson, discovered that the optical scanning technology developed to decode the biomimetic tag is capable of mapping the intrinsic surface of electronic components, providing a type of fingerprint to distinguish authentic or counterfeit circuits.

Nelson stated that when “illegitimate electronic components’ surfaces are altered, the counterfeiters do it in a way that is very difficult for human observers to detect...believe it or not, the fake ones look better than the real ones.”

Given that counterfeit electronic components are forged chiefly by altering

their surface layers, this discovery provides a powerful method for screening integrated circuits based on their intrinsic surface patterns, which can be scanned in as little as one second.

ChromoLogic has developed this surface-scanning technology into the DTEK system, which provides quantitative optical inspection of integrated circuits.

Dr. Stephanie McElhinny, ARL-ARO program manager for the ChromoLogic project, noted that the development and use of this optical scanner for detecting surface fingerprints “is an incredible example that illustrates how research discoveries can guide a project to an outcome that would never have been predicted... and serves as a strong argument for the continued support of high-risk research to enable new Army capabilities.”

The DTEK system recently began evaluation through multiple electronics manufacturers, and the technology has already been adopted by the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Boeing.

McElhinny and ARO Military Deputy Lt. Col. Timothy Warner attended a site demonstration of the DTEK system at Boeing’s Huntington Beach location in 2012.

The ARL-ARO representatives were shown the quality assurance process at Boeing and the role that the DTEK system will play in authenticating circuits for use in DoD contracts.

According to Warner, the importance of this technology is evident “when one considers the implications of an illegitimate circuit making its way into Army materiel--it could cause a 10-fold reduction in service life, or worse--it could cause the failure of an aircraft or targeting system while in operation, putting lives at risk.”

The DTEK system, used as part of a comprehensive counterfeit-mitigation process, may reduce the influx of forgeries into Army materiel and improve the reliability of mission-essential equipment used by the Soldier.

The DTEK optical scanning technology is also capable of identifying and tracking materiel in the absence of external tags or barcodes.

The research team is working with Picatinny Arsenal and the Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center to develop a handheld scanner that can be used for covert tracking and management of high-value Army commodities.



File photo

Arbor and Earth Day celebration set for April 26

(From left) Elijah Walker, 4, Haley Binebrink, 4, Keegan Passwater 3, and Stephanie Nguyen, 3, examine white-tailed deer antlers that were collected on post at an ATC booth during last year's Arbor/Earth Day celebration. Local youth and community member can once again enjoy a variety of hands-on science experiments, presentations and events at the APG North youth center April 26. Activities will include a police working dog demonstration, Scales and Tales with live wildlife, Taxidermy Table, recycling crafts, Bald Eagle Station, Turtle Telemetry, Fish Tank/Water Quality Display, Gardening Demos and an appearance by Smokey the Bear. Pick up the April 18 APG News for more details on the 2013 APG Arbor/Earth Day celebrations.



Byron Reasin Hoyle Gym manager, Intramural sports coordinator

Byron Reasin is MWR's intramural sports coordinator and the manager of Hoyle Gym. He manages the gym staff, organizes sporting events and assists the coordination of special events. Hoyle customers include active-duty service members, DOD civilians, retirees and their Family members as well as government contractors. All of the above are welcome to use the facility. Its amenities include weight rooms, state-of-the-art cardio and nautilus equipment along with stationary bikes and ellipticals; flat-screen TVs, and a newly-finished upper level where Zumba and Body Blast fitness classes take place.

A lot of people don't realize the building has men's and women's sauna facilities, Reasin said.

A native of Cecil County, Reasin discovered APG the summer of 2003 while serving as a summer intern. After graduating with a degree in Sports Medicine from Elle University in North Caroli-

na in 2004, he applied for a permanent position at APG and got it.

He said the best part about his job is getting to know the customers.

"I really like interacting and establishing relationships with the sports and fitness community," he said. "Customers are always asking us about dietary and fitness requirements; people are just more health conscious nowadays."

He encouraged organizations to come out and cheer for their teams during the intramural sports' regular and post-seasons. Volleyball gets underway this week after an exciting intramural basketball season.

Hoyle Gym is open 5 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday thru Friday; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., weekends and holidays. For more information about Hoyle Gym facilities, fitness classes, or MWR intramural sports, contact Reasin at 410-436-3375; e-mail byron.a.reasin.naf@mail.mil; or visit the MWR website at www.apgmwr.com.



Want to make a difference in how services are rendered at APG? Tell us how we are doing.

Visit <http://ice.disa.mil>. Click on "ARMY" then "Aberdeen Proving Ground."

Freestate Academy provides opportunities

Continued from Page 1

teens not only receive an education that prepares them to take the GED and the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, or ASVAB, they also learn life skills such as money management, leadership, resume writing and interviewing skills.

The program follows a strict schedule, including 9 p.m. lights out and a 5:30 a.m. wake-up call for PT.

“The cadets are monitored 24/7 by trained staff,” Rose said. “Every minute of every day is accounted for.”

Cadets are not allowed outside distractions like social media, internet and or cell phones. Those cadets who exhibit good behavior earn points; those who earn enough points can earn a trip home for a short period of time.

The program also includes a post-residential phase, where cadets work closely with mentors in their community. The cadets are placed into jobs, continue their education or enter the military.

Cadet David Farrell from Charles County said that he decided to enroll in Freestate because he did not adapt well in a typical high school environment. He needed to learn some time management skills in order to achieve his goals.

“It was like one ant following the next,” he said. “I needed some structure.”

Farrell said that the small classes and the instructors have helped him learn how to self-motivate and set goals. His long-term goal is to be a combat engineer in the Marines. His short term goals are to prepare for the GED and to get into the program’s honor corps. The honor corps represents Freestate Chal- leNge Academy at public events.

“It is the least I could do,” he said. “They have given me so many opportunities and they have saved my future. Now I want to

I think it’s a wonderful program that provides many opportunities for our youth, reinforces values that we all need in our toolkit to be productive citizens.

Maj. Gen. Robert Ferrell

CECOM Commanding General and APG Senior Commander

grow up and be one of tomorrow’s leaders.”

Rose said that all cadets are active in the community. During the residential phase all cadets must volunteer at least 40 hours before graduating.

“Many cadets volunteer more than the required 40 hours,” he said.

Rose said that there is a misconception that all the teens that enter the program are troubled.

“These are good kids that want some direction,” he said. “They are looking for some positive feedback from adults.”

“This is not a boot-camp program, no one is forced to come here by a judge,” said the program’s case manager Kevin Covington.

Cadets who enter the program must be drug-free, and have no pending court action, probation or indictment against them when they enter the program. Teens with felonies on their record will not be admitted to the program.

“I think that teens that decide to come to the program are dedicated to succeeding,” said Cadet Juan Funderburk from Prince George’s County. “We have to give up our old lifestyle. Being in the program is not easy; we have to get out of our comfort zone. It shows that we want to get on track.”

Funderburk, who serves on the student government, said that his long-term goal is to serve as an officer in the military.

Cadet Chastin Kotapski from Edgewood, Md., said that she needed a break from all the distractions of her previous high school life. She said that the cadre care about the cadet’s success.

“I like everything about the program,” she said. “It has taught me discipline, how to be respectful and how to represent myself well in any situation. I definitely have more confidence since entering the program. I am now setting higher goals for myself.”

Kotapski said that after she gets her GED she plans on going to Harford Community College and eventually wants to join the Air National Guard and become either a forensic scientist or a marine biologist.

“Before entering the program I didn’t think that this was possible,” she said. “I didn’t have the confidence to achieve my goals.”

Kotapski said that she is also pushing herself to achieve in honor of her mother, who passed away when she was two weeks into the program.

“I could have left, gone home, but I wouldn’t have accomplished anything,” she

said. “I knew my mom would have wanted me to stay. I wanted to make her proud.”

Jocelyn Oliva, from Hyattsville, Md., said that she wanted to make her education a priority.

“I want to join the military and eventually work for the FBI,” she said. “This program gave me the confidence to achieve these goals.”

CECOM Commanding General and APG Senior Commander Maj. Gen. Robert Ferrell said that he is a big supporter of the Freestate Chal- leNge Academy.

“I think it’s a wonderful program that provides many opportunities for our youth, reinforces values that we all need in our toolkit to be productive citizens, like discipline, leadership, time management education, and healthy living,” he said. “The cadre are excellent; totally involved in helping the cadets achieve their goals and broaden their minds.”

Ferrell added that he is impressed with the level of support the program receives from Family members, faculty, the state, the APG community and sponsors. Many cadets receive scholarships after graduating from Freestate Chal- leNge Academy.

“I see potential in the program,” he said. “Having Freestate at APG creates a climate of caring. We care about improving the lives of these cadets. The youth are our future. They are our future leaders.”

To learn more about the Freestate Challenge Academy program or to obtain a copy of the program’s calendar of events, contact Bill Anderson or Marissa Richards. Anderson can be reached at 410-436-3220 or email at andersonw@mdmildep.org. Richards can be reached at 410-436-3255 or e-mail at richardsm@mdmildep.org.

Army safety statistics show improvement

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deaths are down by double digits from one of our most historic years is remarkable,” said Brig. Gen. Timothy J. Edens, director of Army Safety and commanding general, U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center. “Our leaders and Soldiers are putting in the hard work to keep one another safe.”

The second quarter saw significant reductions in fatal on- and off-duty ground accidents. Deaths occurring in privately owned vehicles dropped 21 percent from the same quarter in fiscal 2012, and tactical ground fatalities declined by nearly half. Aviation was the only area to experience a substantial increase, with seven fatalities reported during the quarter as compared to zero

Combined with data from the first quarter, fatal accidents thus far in 2013 are down

17 percent off duty and 19 percent on duty. In addition, civilian employee injury claims have fallen nearly 20 percent.

the year prior.

Combined with data from the first quarter, fatal accidents thus far in 2013 are down 17 percent off duty and 19 percent on duty. In addition, civilian employee injury claims have fallen nearly 20 percent.

While they welcomed the positive

news, both Edens and USACR/Safety Center Command Sgt. Maj. Richard D. Stidley cautioned against complacency during the spring and summer months.

“Historically speaking, these last two quarters are where we’ll see our numbers rise,” Edens said. “Some years, fatalities

have doubled or tripled during the second half of the fiscal year.”

“That’s obviously an unacceptable situation,” Stidley said. “Our first-line leaders have the greatest influence on their Soldiers, and we’re relying on them to increase visibility and awareness of warm-weather hazards.

“The greatest risk Soldiers will face is on the road, so that’s where leaders’ primary focus should be.”

The Army Safe Spring Campaign, an annual effort designed to raise awareness of driving hazards and other seasonal safety issues, is currently available at <https://safety.army.mil>. The Army Safe Summer Campaign will kick off May 23.

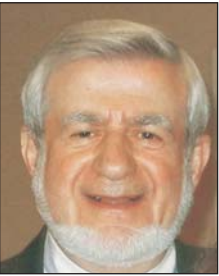
Holocaust survivor Sam Poncza to speak

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onset of World War II, will be guest speaker.

Born in 1937, Poncza lived with his mother in German-occupied Warsaw while his father, in 1939, moved to Soviet-occupied Poland. At age 3, he and his mother crossed the frozen Bug River by foot at night to rejoin his father, only to be stopped and arrested by Soviet border guards who deported the entire family to a labor camp in Siberia. After a series of moves, his family immigrated to Argentina in 1959, and lived there until 1964, when they came to the United States and settled in Baltimore

In 1967, Poncza received an engineer-



Poncza

Memorial Museum.

Congress established the Days of Remembrance as the nation’s annual commemoration of the Holocaust and created the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as a permanent liv-

ing degree from the University of Maryland and was employed at the Radio Corporation of America in New Jersey. Today, he is retired and volunteers as a translator at the United States Holocaust

ing memorial to the victims. Holocaust remembrance week is April 7–14, 2013.

The Holocaust was the systematic, bureaucratic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of approximately six million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators. “Holocaust” is a word of Greek origin meaning “sacrifice by fire.” The Nazis, who came to power in Germany in January 1933, believed that Germans were “racially superior” and that the Jews, deemed “inferior,” were an alien threat to the so-called German racial community.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is a living memorial to

the Holocaust, created to inspire citizens and leaders worldwide to confront hatred, prevent genocide, and promote human dignity. It is America’s national institution for the documentation, study, and interpretation of Holocaust history, and serves as this country’s memorial to the millions of people murdered during the Holocaust. The memorial was chartered by a unanimous Act of Congress in 1980 and is located adjacent to the National Mall in Washington, DC, at 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW. Visit <http://www.ushmm.org/> for more information.

SAAM provides opportunities to learn and heal

Continued from Page 1

U.S. Army Public Health Command, Stephanie Powers, clinical counselor from Harford County Safety Awareness Resources Change, or SARC, Wendy Witmer, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic’s chief of Behavioral Services, Gary Hardy, ASAP clinical director, and Dea Galloway, a Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) victim advocate and abuse survivor. Attendees were invited to ask questions in person, or anonymously.

1st Lt. Raisa Velez opened the program by saying that every two minutes someone is sexually assaulted in the United States.

“That tells us that we have a national problem that we need to solve together, it also tells us that it is likely that you know somebody that has been a victim of assault,” she said.

Owens, who has provided counseling to sexual assault victims, encouraged sufferers to talk about the assault with someone they trust.

“We can overcome evil with good,” Owens said. “A forum like this helps people heal.”

Cartwright said that children who have been victimized often communicate what happened to them during play time and in art, usually in drawings. Withdrawing from others and expressing anger are also common for victims.

Powers said that parents should have an open, honest dialogue with their children so they feel comfortable talking to their parents if an assault does happen.

Galloway added that parents need to know the adults that are around their children on a daily basis, and let them

know that abuse will not be permitted. She also recommends not allowing alcohol into the home if children are present.

Hardy said that in 30 percent of reported domestic violence incidences alcohol is a contributing factor. He said some military spouses are afraid to report domestic violence for fear that their spouse will lose their job. He said that in the future he would like to see more forum discussions like the SAAM breakfast.

“One way we can be Army strong is by working together and sharing resources,” he said. “We need to send a strong message as a community that this is not going to be tolerated.”

Witmer, who has counseled people on sexual assault for over 30 years, said that she hopes that sexual abuse becomes less of a problem in her lifetime.

“Our attitudes toward rape and sexual assault have changed somewhat, but not enough,” she said. “Hopefully we can get to the point where sexual assault is not an issue. Sexual assault is not about sex, it is about power and control.”

Witmer also recommended that the audience go see the Invisible War, which explores the epidemic of rape in the military. The next screening of the Invisible War will be held on April 16 on APG South (Edgewood), Bldg. E2800 at 1 p.m.

Team APG will be hosting several SAAM events throughout April. To receive the calendar of events e-mail 1st Lt. Raisa Velez, raisa.v.velez@mail.mil.

To report a sexual assault, call the Installation 24/7 hotline at 410-322-7154 or the DoD Safe Helpline at 1-877-995-5247.

MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

A peek at the events making news in and around U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground. For complete photo coverage, visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/>.



APG CHILDREN EXPLORE HUMVEES

1st Sgt. Raymond Conger, from the Maryland National Guard, talks to Parker Ambrose, 2, on April 8. Children from the Aberdeen Proving Ground South (Edgewood) Child Development Center were treated to a visit from four Maryland National Guard Soldiers who brought two High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles, also known as Humvees.

Photo by Rachel Ponder



PURPLE UP!

(From left) Tatyana Sanchez, 9, Nia Webb, 9, program assistant Evette Griffin, and Zaria Freeman, 10, Diane Bailey, 6, pose in their purple in front of the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center April 5. Children who attend the center were asked to wear purple on Fridays during the month of April to show their support for military children. Purple is the color that symbolizes all branches of the military, as it is the combination of Army green, Coast Guard blue, Air Force blue, Marine red and Navy blue.

Photo by Rachel Ponder



Photo by Rachel Ponder

PJ DAY

(From left) APG North (Aberdeen) Child Development Center employee Justine Paxton reads Shaun Billings and Jackson VanDyke during the center's Pajama Day April 5.



Photo by Yvonne Johnson

HAVING FUN MAKING NOISE

From left, APG South (Edgewood) child development center program assistant Coreen Murray looks on as three-year-olds Hannah Lindsay and Savannah Horsmon watch from the front seat of a police car as DES Police Officer John Legere shows them how to turn on the siren during Police Day at the CDC; part of the month-long Month of the Military Child appreciation activities. Legere and Officer Kimberly Long allowed the center's children to try out their vehicles and sirens for two hours, much to the dismay of nearby birds and golfers.